Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada

July 2007

Canadian Wildlife Service
Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 21

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Canada

For more information on wildlife and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), please visit the following Web sites:

National CWS Web site: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca

Regional CWS Web sites:
Atlantic Region: www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html
Quebec Region: www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html
Ontario Region: www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/intro.html

Other regions on Environment Canada's nature sites:
Prairie and Northern Region: www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/index.en.html
Pacific and Yukon Region: www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/nature/nature_eIndex.htm

---

HELPFUL TIP:

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when bird-watching, hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Web site, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information on minimizing the risk of exposure.

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html (English)
http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index_f.html (French)

Cover Art:

The 2006 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp entitled "Resting Time – Brant Geese" is by Canadian wildlife artist Pierre Leduc of Quebec.

Through a special partnership with Environment Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada receives the revenues from the sale of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits. The conservation stamp is also sold to stamp and print collectors and to those interested in contributing to habitat conservation. Through this unique partnership with Environment Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada has been able to dedicate more than $30 million since 1985 to thousands of habitat conservation projects across Canada.

For more information on Wildlife Habitat Canada or the conservation stamp and print program, please call Wildlife Habitat Canada at 613-722-2090 (in the Ottawa region) or toll free at 1-800-669-7919. You can also obtain this information from Wildlife Habitat Canada's Web site at www.whc.org.

Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada

July 2007

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 21

Editors:

This report was prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee, and edited by Eric Reed, Kathryn M. Dickson, and Susan Barleben of the National Office of the Canadian Wildlife Service.

Correct citation for this report:

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee. 2007. *Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada: July 2007*. CWS Migr. Birds Regul. Rep. No. 21.

Comments:

Comments regarding this report, the regulation-setting process or other concerns relating to national migratory game birds should be sent to: Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa, ON. K1A 0H3.

Region-specific comments should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environmental Conservation Service, at the following addresses:

Atlantic Region: 17 Waterfowl Lane, P.O. Box 6227, Sackville, NB. E4L 1G6.
Quebec Region: 1141 route de l'Église, P.O. Box 10100, Sainte-Foy, QC. G1V 4H5.
Ontario Region: 4905 Dufferin Street, Downsview, ON. M3H 5T4.
Prairie & Northern Region: Twin Atria No. #2, 4999-98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB. T6B 2X3.
Pacific & Yukon Region: 5421 Robertson Road, R.R. #1, Delta, BC. V4K 3N2.

Published by Authority of the
Minister of Environment
Canadian Wildlife Service

© Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, 2007
ISBN 978-0-662-46448-8
ISSN 1497-0139

Additional copies of this report may be obtained from:

http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/mbc-com/default.asp?lang=en&n=62F2AA13

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Background 1

Annual Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations 1

2007 BREEDING POPULATION SURVEYS: Preliminary Information 2

DUCKS 2

British Columbia 2

Prairie Canada 2

Eastern Canada 3

GEESE 3

Geese and Swans in the Western Canadian Arctic 3

Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Geese 4

Pacific Canada Geese 4

Geese in the Central Canadian Arctic 5

Greater Snow Geese 5

Breeding Conditions for Geese in West Hudson Bay, McConnell River Region, Nunavut 5

Southern James Bay Canada Geese 6

Mississippi Valley Canada Geese 6

Eastern Prairie Canada Geese 6

North Atlantic Canada Geese 6

Atlantic Canada Geese 6

American Black Duck Harvest Strategy 7

Management of Overabundant Snow Geese 7

Hunting Regulations for the 2007–2008 Season 9

Newfoundland and Labrador 9

Prince Edward Island 9

Nova Scotia 9

New Brunswick 9

Quebec 10

Ontario 10

Manitoba 11

Saskatchewan 11

Alberta 11

British Columbia 11

Nunavut 12

Northwest Territories 12

Yukon 12

Band Encounter Reporting on the Web 12

Environment Canada and Canada Post to Create Efficiency in Hunting Permit Sales 12

Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp 12

Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations 13

Hunting from a vehicle for hunters with physical disabilities 13

New prohibition regarding wastage of migratory birds 13

Addition of a new nontoxic shot 14

Amendment to allow for the temporary possession of migratory birds for disease testing 14

Literature Cited 14

Appendix A 16

2007 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory 16

Background

Canadian hunting regulations for migratory game birds are reviewed annually by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories and a range of other stakeholders. As part of this process, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) produces three reports each year. The November report, *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada*, contains population and other biological information on migratory game birds and provides the scientific basis for management. The December report, *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations*, outlines the proposed changes to the annual hunting regulations, as well as other proposed amendments to the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. Proposals for hunting regulations are developed in accordance with the *Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting* (Appendix B). These two reports are distributed to organizations and individuals with an interest in migratory game bird conservation, to provide an opportunity for input to the development of hunting regulations in this country. The third report, *Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada*, issued in July, summarizes the hunting regulations for the upcoming hunting season.

The process of developing regulations in Canada requires that any changes be made in the form of final proposals by early March of each year. That means that regulations must be set without the benefit of knowledge of the breeding conditions or production forecasts for the coming year. This does not usually present difficulties because the hunting regulations are based on trends over several years. However, in some cases, the results from recent harvest surveys or breeding population surveys conducted in May and June will indicate that changes are needed in the national approach to ensure the conservation of migratory game birds. **In such cases the Canadian Wildlife Service issues a bulletin updating the regulations.**

Annual Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations

The annual schedule is based on the requirement that annual hunting regulations be made into law by early June of each year:

- Early November – The November report, containing biological information, is distributed by the national office of the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS-NO).
- November and December – Jurisdictions develop proposals for hunting regulations in coordination with CWS Regional Directors.
- December 13 – CWS Regions provide CWS-NO with the proposed changes to hunting regulations (with accompanying justifications) for the upcoming year, as well as any other information that should be contained in the December report, including advance notice on items for future years. Descriptions of zone changes are sent by CWS Regions to the Surveyor General for review, approval and translation.
- Early January – CWS-NO distributes the December report containing the regulation proposals, to allow for public, inter-regional and international consultation.
- February 21 – Deadline date for comments to the CWS Regional Directors' offices, which then ensure distribution to the provinces and territories.
- Mid-January to mid-February – CWS Regions work with the provinces and territories to finalize the regulation proposals.
- March 10 – Final proposals, as well as the final text of the regulations and regulation summaries, are sent by CWS Regional Directors to CWS-NO.
- April through May – CWS-NO undertakes the process of preparing legal documents and obtaining approvals for the regulatory proposals.
- Early June – Final hunting regulations, adjusted as appropriate to account for public comment, become law.
- July 15 – Hunting regulation summaries are available at Canada Post outlets.
- End of July – CWS-NO finalizes the July report containing the final proposals for hunting regulations and the hunting regulation summaries.
- End of August – Regulation consolidations are available to CWS Regions.

Note to American Readers

The annual cycle of regulation development takes place earlier in Canada than in the United States. To meet the requirements of the Canadian regulatory process, proposals for hunting regulations must be finalized no later than early March of each year. Canadian representatives at the summer Flyway Council meetings and other hearings are not reporting on what is being considered, but on what has been passed into law.

2007 BREEDING POPULATION SURVEYS: Preliminary Information

Information from field programs undertaken in the spring of 2007 is provided for areas for which new data were available at the time of writing. It should be considered to be preliminary. The results of these and other 2007 breeding population surveys will be described in detail and compared to historical data sets in the November 2007 report, *Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada*.

DUCKS

British Columbia

(Breault, CWS, pers. comm.)

Snowpack conditions were at or near record-high levels across the B.C. Interior during the winter of 2006–2007. In the Southern Interior, water levels in low-elevation wetlands were similar to those of 2006, but well below the 1996–2006 average. In the Central and Northern Interior, water levels in low-elevation wetlands were higher than average. The record snowpack resulted in more completely or partially frozen wetlands at elevations as low as 1065 feet, much lower than the usual 1370 feet snow and ice ceiling level observed in previous years. In the Southern Interior, breeding habitat conditions were poor and similar to those of May 2006, while they were good in the Central and Northern Interior.

Two major surveys are used to estimate trends in duck populations in British Columbia: a large-scale (10 million hectare) aerial survey of the B.C. Interior and a replicated series of ground counts covering selected wetlands of the Southern and Central Interior Plateau of B.C.

The aerial survey of breeding waterfowl was conducted in the Central Interior Plateau of British Columbia in May 2006 and 2007 over an area covering in excess of 10 million hectares. The selected survey technique was similar to the one used for the mid-continent survey, except that all waterfowl sightings were geo-referenced and associated with a habitat type (i.e. stream, wetland, river, lake, agricultural field) and an ecological unit (ecosection) to allow for the subsequent determination of ecosystem-specific, habitat-to-species relationships and the development of landscape use models. Waterfowl population estimates were calculated separately for each ecosection and also for the entire survey area. We estimated the presence of 420 641 breeding waterfowl over the portion of the Central Interior Plateau covered by the May 2006 surveys. Mallard was the most abundant species, accounting for 25% of the total waterfowl population estimate. The May 2007 data are still being reviewed but it appears that there were more breeding waterfowl and Mallards in May 2007 than in 2006.

The B.C. long-term index of duck use is derived by the Cooperative Wetland Survey, an inter-agency project initiated in 1987 aimed at characterizing the abundance of breeding and migrating waterfowl in the wetlands of the B.C. Interior. The survey involves six replicated ground counts of waterbirds on each of approximately 400 wetlands located on private property and on native, provincial and federal lands. Approximately 290 of these wetlands have been monitored consistently since 1988. For analytical purposes, these wetlands are referred to as "trend wetlands," as they allow for long-term comparisons of waterfowl abundance over a fixed amount of habitat. Although the May 2007 data are still being processed, the results are expected to be similar to the previous year's, reflecting a late and dry spring and overall low-water-level conditions in Southern B.C. wetlands. The ground counts target a fixed number of permanent and seasonal wetlands and the results are not adjusted with an annual index of pond availability.

Prairie Canada

(Caswell and Schuster 2007)

The prairie, parkland and boreal regions of Western Canada are surveyed annually in May as part of the cooperative United States Fish and Wildlife Service–Canadian Wildlife Service (USFWS–CWS) Waterfowl Population and Habitat Survey. The survey area covers most of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and parts of the Northwest Territories (strata 13–18; 20–40; 75–77). The number of ponds in this survey area increased 13% over 2006 to 5.04 million ponds, which is 46% above the long-term average. Pond counts were 11% higher in Manitoba, 10% higher in Saskatchewan, and 23% higher in Alberta compared to 2006. Precipitation from April 1 to mid-June was average to above average across the Prairies.

The total number of ducks in the Canadian Prairies increased by 1% over 2006, to a level 26% above the long-term average. Most increases occurred in the Southern Prairies, with northern areas recording numbers similar to last year. Mallards increased 4% over 2006, but overall levels remained 5% below the long-term average. Pintail numbers decreased by 23% from their 2006 levels to about 1.3 million, and were 36% below the long-term average. Scaup numbers were down 24% from last year, continuing their downward trend, and 41% below the long-term average. Canvasbacks were up

17% from 2006, and were 74% above the long-term average.

Eastern Canada

(Gilliland, Bordage, and Ross, CWS, pers. comm.)

In Eastern Canada, breeding waterfowl populations are monitored annually through the Eastern Waterfowl Breeding Ground Survey (hereafter Eastern Waterfowl Survey). The Canadian Wildlife Service carries out a systematic helicopter survey over the Boreal Shield region from northeastern Ontario to Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Atlantic Highlands region from the Gaspé Peninsula (Quebec) to Nova Scotia. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducts a fixed-wing aerial survey in parts of Eastern Canada and the Northeastern U.S. This work has been conducted since 1990 as part of the Black Duck Joint Venture (BDJV) of the *North American Waterfowl Management Plan*. The surveys are designed and timed primarily to provide reliable breeding population estimates and trends for the American Black Duck, an early-nesting species.

Historically, the data from these surveys have been analyzed separately, despite some overlap in geographic coverage. In 2004, CWS and USFWS agreed to integrate the two surveys, produce composite estimates, reduce the extent of overlap and expand the geographic coverage. The integrated data presented in the November 2007 *Report on the Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* will present the results of the two survey platforms. In the meantime, reported here are the initial impressions of the Canadian helicopter survey crew leaders.

Newfoundland and Labrador. Spring came later than in recent years in Newfoundland and Labrador, and the timing of the survey was similar to that of the mid-1990s (May 13 to June 3). There was significant ice cover on waterbodies at higher elevations in Newfoundland and throughout most of Labrador. Although black duck numbers showed promising increases throughout the mid-1990s, their numbers declined between 2000 and 2005. The 2007 black duck estimate was higher than the previous year's, indicating that the downward trend has been reversed and black duck numbers have been rising since the 2005 season. The numbers of Ring-neck Ducks have grown since 2003 and remain high in 2007. Finally, the numbers of American Green-wing Teal declined in 2003 but their densities were up in 2007 (Gilliland, CWS, pers. comm.).

Quebec. The year 2007 started out with warm temperatures, suggesting an early spring. However, temperatures shifted and spring conditions ended up being normal, with the exception of the low precipitations, which contributed to the occurrence of numerous forest fires. Overall, the 2007 boreal forest survey conditions were good. The survey was undertaken between May 1 and May 28. The total number of waterfowl breeding pairs observed this year in the boreal forest was the third highest since the inception of the survey in 1990 (an increase of 22% in relation to last year). As measured during the helicopter component of the survey, the number of American Black Ducks, the most abundant species, increased by 7% this year compared to last year. The 2007 black duck population is also 39% higher than the 1990–99 average. Among other species, a record number of 102 498 of indicated pairs of Ring-neck Duck were observed in 2007 (Bordage, CWS, pers. comm.).

Ontario. Spring 2007 started slowly in early April with cool, cloudy conditions throughout the survey area, but then warmed quickly later in the month in southern, central and northeastern Ontario. Habitat phenology was essentially normal during the nest initiation period and sightings were mostly of pairs and lone males, particularly for the larger dabblers. Numbers appeared slightly higher for a number of species, including the American Black Duck, and for the overall waterfowl total. Snow levels, particularly late in the winter, were good throughout central and northeastern Ontario, and water levels during the survey appeared average. Weather conditions during incubation and early brood rearing were generally warmer than average with no extensive cold snaps, thus providing good conditions for nesting success (Ross, CWS, pers. comm.).

GEESE

Geese and Swans in the Western Canadian Arctic

(Hines, CWS, pers. comm.)

Lesser Snow Geese (Western Arctic Population)

More than 95% of Snow Geese in the western Canadian Arctic nest on Banks Island. Numbers here have increased from about 100 000 birds in 1960 to over half a million birds in 2002.

The remaining 5% of the population nest in small colonies on the mainland at the Anderson River and Kendall Island migratory bird sanctuaries. The mainland populations have varied in size from year to year (Kendall Island) or declined (Anderson River) during the last decade. Aerial surveys of the two mainland nesting areas (and more detailed ground counts at Anderson River) in June 2007 suggested that although nesting was about a week later than usual, the nesting effort at both the Kendall Island and Anderson River bird sanctuaries was good compared to many years in the late 1990s and early

2000s. As has happened frequently during the past decade, most nests at Anderson River were destroyed by Grizzly Bears, so production of young there will be low. The migration of snow geese through the mainland of the western Arctic to the main nesting colonies on Banks Island was about a week later than usual. Nevertheless, an aerial photo survey carried out in mid-June indicated good nesting effort at the primary nesting area near the Big River. Overall, production is expected to be at least average on Banks Island this year.

Greater White-fronted Geese (Mid-continent Population)

In the western Arctic, White-fronted Geese nest mainly on the mainland. Information collected during aerial surveys in the Mackenzie Delta and Tuktoyaktuk Peninsula area in June 2007, indicated a good nesting effort by White-fronted Geese. It is expected that production of white-fronted geese should be at least average in 2007.

Canada Geese and Cackling Geese (Short-grass Prairie Population)

Canada Geese and Cackling Geese are far less abundant on the western Arctic mainland than are White-fronted Geese. Nevertheless, productivity of Canada Geese appears to have paralleled that of white-fronts in this area in the past, and a good nesting effort with at least average production is expected for 2007. Victoria Island, where many short-grass prairie Canada Geese and Cackling Geese in the western Arctic breed, experienced a relatively late spring and it is possible that reproductive success there will be lower than on the mainland.

Tundra Swans (Eastern Population)

The Mackenzie Delta Region and nearby parts of the western Arctic mainland are one of the most important breeding areas for Tundra Swans in North America. Surveys carried out in this region in 2007 indicated good numbers of nesting swans and a relatively early nesting season. Thus, about average production should be expected this year.

Black Brant

The mainland of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region is one of the most important nesting areas for Pacific Flyway brant in the Canadian Arctic, and more than 6000 adult brant were present on the mainland in 1995–98 (Hines and Wiebe 2006).

Since the 1970s, the Black Brant population on the mainland of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region has apparently increased in some areas but declined by 80–90% at the Anderson River Bird Sanctuary, which was once the most important nesting area for Black Brant in Canada. Up to 1200 nesting pairs occurred at Anderson River in the 1970s but numbers declined to 100–200 nesting birds in 2005–2007 (Hines, unpublished data). Apparently, in recent years, brant nests at Anderson River have been heavily attacked by predators, especially barren-ground Grizzly Bears. As well, there is evidence that habitat quality and quantity has been reduced at Anderson River, possibly because of saltwater inundation of the outer delta during storm surges (Armstrong 1998). Investigations currently being carried out by the Canadian Wildlife Service are evaluating habitat loss and Grizzly Bear predation as possible causes of long-term numerical declines of Black Brant and snow geese at Anderson River (Hines, CWS, pers. comm.).

Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Geese

(Baranyuk, Wrangel Island Reserve, Russia, pers. comm.)

The colony of Lesser Snow Geese on Wrangel Island, Russia, is monitored by Russian biologists. They have documented a decline in nesting bird numbers: from 120 000 in 1970 to fewer than half that number in the 1990s (Kerbes 1999). This population is of great interest to Canada because these birds migrate through Western Canada in spring and fall, and more than half the population winters in the Fraser Delta of B.C. and the nearby Skagit Delta, Washington. The 2007 spring breeding population of Wrangel Island snow geese was 140 000 birds, an increase over the 130,000 to 135,000 birds counted last year. Breeding conditions in 2007 were not as good as in the previous two years. The main colony had approximately 35,000 nests (down from 48,000 last year), with an 85% nesting success rate, which is above the long-term average. This represents an unprecedented run of good breeding years on Wrangel Island.

Pacific Canada Geese

(Breault, CWS, pers. comm.)

Pacific Canada Geese are surveyed as part of the ground surveys of waterfowl in the B.C. Interior described in the section on ducks in this report. The May 2007 data are still being processed and will be published in the November *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* report.

Geese in the Central Canadian Arctic

(Alisauskas, EC-S&T, pers. comm.)

Based on general impressions of conditions in the central Canadian Arctic, nesting appears to have taken place very late this year. Preliminary estimates for both Ross's Geese and Lesser Snow Geese point to a mean nest initiation date of June 19 compared to a long-term average of June 11 or 12 for 1991 to 2005. This ties the record-late mean nest initiation date of 2000. This year's lateness is attributed to persistent snow cover resulting from the cool, cloudy weather and precipitation at a time when snowmelt usually occurs at Karrak Lake. However, the very favourable weather during incubation (July 4 onward) should lead to good nesting success. Notwithstanding favourable weather for the rest of the incubation and brood-rearing periods, the percentage of juveniles in the fall flight of Ross's Geese, predicted from the nest initiation date, is expected to be only about 10–12%. Similarly, production of Snow Geese, White-fronted Geese and short-grass prairie Canada Geese/Cackling Geese from Queen Maud Gulf should be far below average in 2007.

Population estimates for nesting Ross's Geese and Lesser Snow Geese are not yet available for 2007. However, population growth over the longer term seems unabated. For example, the number of light geese that nested on Karrak Lake in 2006 was greater than 1.2 million, with record breeding numbers of both Ross's Geese (697 149) and Lesser Snow Geese (571 930). This represents an annual rate of increase of 22% and 23%, respectively, from 2005 to 2006. From 2003 to 2006, the long-term average annual population growth rate at Karrak Lake is 10% for Ross's Geese and 7.6% for Lesser Snow Geese. The combined long-term average is 8.6%.

Greater Snow Geese

(Lefebvre, CWS, and Gauthier, Laval University, pers. comm.)

The photographic inventory of the Greater Snow Goose population was carried out during their spring stopover in southern Quebec on May 6, 2007, using five aircraft under optimal weather conditions—i.e. a warm, sunny day. Based on the preliminary results of the spring 2007 survey, the photographed population was estimated at about 1,019,000 ± 75,000 geese, which is almost the same as last year and a relatively stable level since 1999, the year in which special conservation measures were implemented.

A field team is currently conducting an exhaustive study of Greater Snow Goose reproduction on Bylot Island. Snowmelt was relatively early this year due to mild temperatures in early June and a thin snow pack. Spring was late in northern Quebec and southern Baffin Island, which may have delayed the birds during their migration in late May. When the birds finally arrived, they quickly initiated laying and seem to have nested in fair numbers. The density of nests in the central part of the colony is lower than usual but the spread of the colony is larger, which may be due to the total lack of snow; the breeding effort of the geese would therefore be assessed as normal. The consequence of the delayed arrival of the birds is that laying is late this year. The peak laying date is June 16, compared to a long-term average date of June 11 or 12. A four-day delay is quite significant for the Arctic. Clutch size was fairly high and predation was relatively low. There are, therefore, mixed signals for the reproductive output of the snow geese: a relatively good reproductive effort, high clutch size and moderately low predation, but a fairly late laying date. Given progress in reproduction so far, the production of young should be moderately good.

Breeding Conditions for Geese in West Hudson Bay, McConnell River Region, Nunavut

(Caswell, CWS, pers. comm.)

Research on the McConnell River nesting light goose is now complete. In 2007, early nesting estimates indicate the population has declined from 100 000 (95% Confidence Limit: 78 000–128 000) nesting geese in 2006 to 83 000 (95% CL: 62 500–111 000) in 2007. Possible reasons for the decline include a cold and late spring and low recruitment of 2004 goslings. The McConnell River nesting colony appears to be growing, with Ross's Geese fuelling the incline. Historic light goose estimates since 1994 when Ross's Geese first nested at McConnell River in great number are 10 000 (1994), and 28 000 (1997). Since the McConnell River project began in 2003, nesting light goose population estimates have increased steadily from the initial count of 76 000 (66 000–85 000). The average clutch size of nests surveyed at McConnell River in 2007 was 2.9, lower than the five-year average of 3.4. Lastly, 2007 nesting chronology at McConnell River appears to be two weeks later than the five-year average (also consistent with local traditional knowledge), resulting in a low nesting propensity and clutch size. Although not quantified in 2007, a cold, late spring may also have a negative impact on nesting success (e.g. 2004 nesting success below 50%) and gosling survival.

Southern James Bay Canada Geese

(Brook and Hughes 2007a)

The 2007 surveys on the mainland were flown from May 15 to 17 under excellent weather conditions. Spring arrived very early in northern Ontario, ahead of average but slightly later than in 2006. Similarly to the last two years, the nesting habitat was largely snow-free by mid-April and all but the largest ponds were ice-free.

The 2007 spring population estimate for the Southern James Bay population of Canada Geese was 97 993, which is very similar to the five-year average. Assessments of nesting effort and hatching success indicated that, if the good conditions persist, 2007 should be an excellent production year for this population.

Mississippi Valley Canada Geese

(Brook and Hughes 2007b)

The 2007 survey was flown under excellent weather conditions on May 20 and 21. The timing of the survey was good, and all transects were completed at the end of the first week of incubation.

Spring conditions on the breeding grounds were very early again in 2007, with snowmelt occurring a full month earlier than usual, as it had during the previous two years. The spring breeding population estimate was 402 640, which was the highest recorded since 1999 and 10% above the 1989–2007 average. The total population estimate for 2007 was 681 029—again, above average.

Eastern Prairie Canada Geese

(Raedeke et al. 2007)

In 2007 the breeding phenology of the Eastern Prairie Canada Goose population was early throughout its range. Water levels appeared average, with the exception of the southeast portion of the range, where lakes appeared slightly below normal levels.

The 2007 estimate of 217 500 ± 22 900 geese was similar to the 2006 estimate and the previous five-year average of 235 300 geese. The estimate of 82 500 ± 12 000 single geese exceeds the previous record of 71 600 ± 10300 set in 1993. The estimate of 70 900 ± 11 400 geese in pairs was similar to 2006 (73 800 ± 12 600), as were the numbers of geese observed in groups (64 100 ± 15 900 in 2007 vs. 50 600 ± 25 900 in 2006). The two-year average of 144 100 singles and pairs is well above the 75 000 minimum threshold that would require more restrictive regulation.

North Atlantic Canada Geese

(Gilliland, CWS, pers. comm.)

The North Atlantic Canada Goose breeding population is surveyed as part of the Eastern Waterfowl Survey (see section on Eastern Canada on page 3 of this report). The Canadian helicopter survey crew reported that while the density of indicated pairs was relatively low between 2000 and 2005, preliminary results show clutch sizes were high in 2005 and 2006, and the numbers of breeding geese increased in 2006. Breeding densities in 2007 were similar to those of 2006.

Atlantic Canada Geese

(Harvey, Maryland Department of Wildlife and Heritage, and Rodrigue and Bordage, CWS, pers. comm.)

The fifteenth consecutive annual survey of Canada Geese in northern Quebec was conducted June 21–27, 2007. The survey covered the three regions known to shelter the highest densities of nesting Atlantic Canada geese (interior Ungava, coastal Ungava Bay and Hudson Bay, as well as the tundra-forest transition zone south of the peninsula). A fourth region, in the boreal forest at the latitude of James Bay, was last included in this survey in 1996, but the area has been covered by the USFWS as part of the Eastern Canada transect survey since 2000.

Harvey and Rodrigue reported that spring temperatures in 2007 were cold and that snow was still present on the breeding grounds in June.

The estimated number of breeding pairs was 195,709 (standard error (SE) = 16,621) in 2007 compared to 160,020 (SE = 16,419) in 2006. The proportion of indicated pairs observed as single geese (42%) was low, suggesting a reduced breeding effort due to the late spring.

The total population estimate (breeding pairs and grouped birds) was 1,221,779 birds (SE = 104,191) in 2007 compared to 1,135,493 birds (SE = 121,282) in 2006. The total population estimate includes moulting migrant geese from several populations and should be interpreted with caution.

In 1996 a recruitment study was initiated on Atlantic Population Canada Geese nesting on the Ungava Peninsula (Nunavik) in northern Quebec. In 2007 six sites located in the coastal lowlands along Ungava Bay were ground-searched for nests between June 13 and 15.

Snowmelt was later than average in 2007. The mean nest initiation date (average of all six sites) in 2007 was June 10, which is 20 days later than last year; this is the second latest year on record, the average being May 28. The total number of nests found and the mean clutch size for all six sites was

64 and 3.6, respectively. Clutch size in 2007 was the third lowest since the beginning of the survey and the long-term average is 3.92. In conclusion, productivity of Atlantic Population Canada Geese on the Ungava Peninsula should be low in 2006.

In the boreal forest, where Atlantic Population Canada Geese are counted as part of the helicopter component of the Eastern Waterfowl Survey, the 2007 population was slightly higher than that of last year (Bordage, CWS, pers. comm.). Estimates for 1999–2007 clearly remain above 1990–98 estimates. The thaw occurred on May 8 on Lake Saint-Jean, corresponding to the long-term average, but 12 days later than in 2006. As a result, reproduction was delayed this year. The region covered by the eastern boreal forest survey is at the southern limit of the nesting range of Atlantic Population Canada Geese.

American Black Duck Harvest Strategy

Progress on the development of an international American Black Duck harvest strategy based on the principles of adaptive harvest management (AHM) has been published in previous issues of the Canadian Wildlife Service's *Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports*. In fall 2004, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service agreed to work towards finalizing an adaptive harvest management approach to determine appropriate levels of harvest for black ducks in Canada and the U.S., based on breeding ground survey information. Models were initially based on wintering ground surveys, so certain technical adjustments will have to be made. These models are currently being updated with the breeding pair information.

Meanwhile, CWS and USFWS are working on a provisional harvest strategy until an acceptable AHM approach is available. This interim strategy would be based on population models developed from wintering ground surveys and would seek to maintain a stable harvest rate—one that would see a stable proportion of black ducks harvested from the population over time. A proposal was not yet available at the time of this writing. However, it is likely that a proposal for an interim international black duck harvest strategy will be presented and discussed at the fall meetings of the Canadian Regulatory Advisory Committees.

The American Black Duck Harvest Strategy Working Group will keep the appropriate regulatory consultative bodies in Canada and United States informed of progress as tools are developed for implementation of adaptive harvest management for black ducks. These bodies will also be informed of progress towards an interim harvest strategy framework for black duck hunting management.

More details on the adaptive management study can be found on the following Web site: http://coopunit.forestry.uga.edu/blackduck/.

Management of Overabundant Snow Geese

Issue

The rapid growth of most Snow Goose populations is of great concern. Assessments of the environmental effects of the rapidly growing populations of mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese and Greater Snow Geese were completed by working groups of Canadian and American scientists. Their analyses are contained in the comprehensive reports entitled *Arctic Ecosystems in Peril – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group* (Batt 1997) and *The Greater Snow Goose – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group* (Batt 1998). These working groups concluded that the increase in Snow Goose populations were primarily human induced. Improved farming practices supplying a steady food source along with the safety of refuges have resulted in increased survival and reproductive rates in snow geese. These populations have become so large that they are affecting the plant communities at staging areas and breeding grounds on which they and other species rely. Grazing and grubbing by geese not only permanently removes vegetation, but also changes soil salinity, nitrogen dynamics and moisture levels. The result is the alteration or elimination of the plant communities, which in all likelihood will not be restored. Although the Arctic is vast, the areas that support migrating and breeding geese and other companion species are limited in extent and some areas are likely to become inhospitable for decades. Increasing crop damage is also an important consequence of the growing snow goose populations.

Increasing numbers of spring migrant Greater Snow Geese have recently been observed on the tidal marsh habitats in and around Restigouche County, New Brunswick. The Canadian Wildlife Service, in concert with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy, is currently examining the possibility of establishing future special conservation seasons in New Brunswick to assist efforts already in place in Quebec to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size of Greater Snow Geese. Consultations will be undertaken in 2007 to determine whether the special measures in place in

Quebec should be extended to include northwestern New Brunswick.

Regulation

Several concurrent management measures are being undertaken to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size to a level consistent with the carrying capacity of the habitat. One measure involves attempting to increase the mortality rate of Snow Geese by two to three times the rate achieved prior to the introduction of habitat conservation measures. Beginning in 1999, an amendment to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* created special conditions under which hunters were encouraged to take overabundant species for conservation reasons and, in some cases and subject to specific controls, to use exceptional methods and equipment such as electronic calls and bait. The 1999 and 2000 regulations applied in selected areas of Quebec and Manitoba. Beginning in spring 2001, special conservation measures were also implemented in Saskatchewan and Nunavut. The dates and locations of application of these special conservation measures were determined in consultation with the provincial governments, other organizations and local communities.

Evaluation

Evaluation plans are being implemented to track progress toward the goals of reduced population growth and, ultimately, recovery by plant communities.

For Lesser Snow Geese, the original objectives were aimed at increasing continental harvest to approximately 0.8 to 1.2 million birds annually (Rockwell et al. 1997). These projections were later challenged as being too conservative, and annual harvest requirements of 1.4 to 3.4 million birds were projected using updated information (Cooke et al. 2000; Rockwell and Ankney 2000). Continental harvests of mid-continent light geese, which includes approximately 100 000 Ross's Geese per year, declined from approximately one million birds in 1999 to about 700 000 birds in 2004 (USFWS and CWS, unpublished data), and have not met the objectives in any year. Photographic and ground-based surveys of some nesting colonies of Lesser Snow Geese suggest that the population has increased since 1997, and survival rates of adult snow geese remain high. Lesser Snow Geese remain extremely abundant, and continue to have negative effects on Arctic habitats.

In the case of Greater Snow Geese, the population objective adopted by the *North American Waterfowl Management Plan* was 500 000 birds, down from the nearly 1.0 million birds present in 1999. A recent evaluation demonstrated that special measures (of which the spring season was key) have been successful in reducing the annual survival rate for adults from about 83% to about 72.5%. This is reflected in the spring counts, which show the population to have stabilized at between 800 000 and 1 000000 birds, which is still well above the goal. Moreover, models show that without a spring harvest, the population would quickly begin to grow again because of climatic changes that favour good breeding conditions in the Arctic as well as improved feeding conditions (cornfields) on wintering and staging grounds. At the same time, however, it appears that the harvest in Canada has been maximized. Although Canadian Wildlife Service is working with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service and some American States to increase the harvest of Greater Snow Geese on their wintering grounds, also needed are measures for further increasing Canada's harvest or at least maintaining it at the current level.

Proposal for 2007–2008

Special conservation measures for fall 2007 include minor amendments to maintain the tradition of opening the hunting season on Saturdays in Quebec. In District J (Magdalen Islands), the opening date is delayed by six days to fall on the traditional "last Saturday in September." In Manitoba, the current requirement to use only white-phase snow goose decoys when using electronic calls in fall is changed to permit the use of white- *and blue-phase* snow goose decoys. This modification is in recognition of the large proportion of blue-phase snow geese in the mid-continent population.

Canadian Wildlife Service intends to fix the dates for special conservation measures in Manitoba and Saskatchewan spring hunt for mid-continent Lesser Geese for the period from 2007–2008 to 2010–2011. This means that the regulations in effect during spring 2007 would remain in effect for the entire four-year period. Such measures may also be considered in future for Nunavut and Quebec. The proposed time period corresponds to the completion of an evaluation of special measures to date for Lesser Snow Geese, as well as the expiry of the new *2005–2010 Action Plan for Sustainable Integrated Management of the Greater Snow Goose* in Quebec (Bélanger and Lefebvre 2006).

There are several advantages to this approach: (1) it facilitates participation and advance planning by hunters and outfitters, (2) it allows advance advertisement of spring seasons by all levels of government, and (3) it is administratively more efficient. As described above, all of this can be accomplished with no risk to the population, and the status of the populations would continue to be updated annually through the Canadian Wildlife

Service's *Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports* series. Regulatory amendments would be made as appropriate.

Hunting Regulations for the 2007–2008 Season

The regulations in effect for 2007–2008 are shown in Appendix A. The amendments were approved by the Governor-in-Council on June 14, 2007.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Barrow's Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye is being eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and a maximum possession limit of two birds on the island of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Other Regulatory Changes

No other regulatory changes are being implemented other than minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings and closings.

Prince Edward Island

Barrow's Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye is being eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and a maximum possession limit of two birds on Prince Edward Island.

Mallard

The previous special daily bag and possession limit restrictions on Mallard Ducks are being removed; daily bag and possession limits for Mallards are now included in the category of "Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)." Mallard populations continue to increase in Eastern Canada and evidence suggests this population growth may have detrimental effects on American Black Duck populations. The current restrictions on bag and possession limits for American Black Ducks and Mallard/American Black Duck hybrids are being maintained.

Other Regulatory Changes

Waterfowler Heritage Day will be held on September 15, 2007.

Nova Scotia

Barrow's Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye is being eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and a maximum possession limit of two birds in Nova Scotia.

Other Regulatory Changes

Waterfowler Heritage Day will be held on September 22, 2007.

New Brunswick

Canada Goose

Spring surveys conducted annually to estimate numbers of breeding waterfowl in the Maritime Provinces have identified a ten-fold increase in the abundance of breeding Canada Geese over the past decade. Thus, as in many other areas of the country, an early September Canada Goose season is being opened in New Brunswick in both Zone No. 1 and Zone No. 2, to help reduce nuisance and crop depredation problems associated with Canada Geese from introduced flocks. The seasons will occur before most migrant geese arrive in New Brunswick, thereby increasing harvest pressure on locally breeding geese only. In order to prevent disturbance to other waterfowl, hunting during the September Canada Goose season will be restricted to farmland only. A bag and possession limit of eight and sixteen birds, respectively, (during the early September Canada Goose season only) will be implemented. In 2007, the dates for the early September Canada Goose season in New Brunswick are as follows:

- September 4–14 in Zone 1
- September 4–14 in Zone 2

Barrow's Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye is being eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and a maximum possession limit of two birds in New Brunswick.

Other Regulatory Changes

Waterfowler Heritage Day will be held on September 15, 2007.

Quebec

The non-hunting area of Baie-du-Febvre is being eliminated.

Ontario

Barrow's Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye is being eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and a maximum possession limit of two birds in Ontario.

Canada Goose

Regulations for Canada Geese in Ontario seek to maintain a high level of harvest of the rapidly expanding temperate-breeding population (TBP) while limiting harvest of northern-breeding populations, in particular the Southern James Bay Population, whose numbers are currently at low but stable levels. In the case of TBP Canada Geese, the harvest has been increased by introducing special seasons with higher bag limits before and after the regular waterfowl hunting season. Canada Goose hunting regulations are regularly re-evaluated and refined to meet the above-mentioned objectives. The regulations have become increasingly complex ever since the first modifications designed to focus harvest pressure on TBP Canada Geese were introduced. There is a desire to simplify regulations whenever possible to reduce confusion.

Possession Limits

As a result of the many modifications to the regulations, possession limits for Canada Geese differ over time, during seasons, and among localities. The current possession limit in most areas during the regular season is ten; it can be as low as four in some areas or as high as 24 across the province during special seasons targeting temperate-breeding population (TBP) Canada Geese. This has resulted in several requests each year for clarification and fear of prosecution among hunters in situations where the legal possession limit changes overnight from 24 to 10 or even to 4. While there is evidence that daily bag limits can influence the level of harvest, there is no evidence that possession limits do. For the 2007–2008 hunting season, the Canada Goose possession limit is being set at the highest level (24) at all times and places in Ontario.

Sunday Hunting in Southern District

Since 1998, Sunday hunting of migratory birds has been prohibited by federal regulation in some areas of the Southern Waterfowl District already closed by provincial regulation. This was done so that compensatory days could apply to Sundays during the special hunting seasons for Canada Geese, whose numbers were increasing exponentially along with the level of damage and nuisance problems they caused. In 2006, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources reinstituted Sunday gun-hunting in all southern Ontario municipalities that consented to the change. The Canadian Wildlife Service, desiring to harmonize federal and provincial regulations to the extent possible, similarly allowed Sunday hunting of migratory birds in some parts of the Southern Waterfowl District. In those areas with Sunday hunting, some special Canada Goose seasons had to be discontinued in order not to exceed the maximum numbers of hunting days allowed under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*. However, because not all municipalities approved Sunday hunting, the Canadian Wildlife Service did not consider that a blanket authorization of Sunday hunting throughout the District would be desirable. Losing the use of compensatory days in areas that still would not allow Sunday hunting under provincial legislation would lead to a net decrease in opportunities for Canada Goose hunting.

By allowing Sunday hunting, it is expected that the harvest of TBP Canada Geese will increase because: 1) the daily rate of band returns from this population is higher during the regular hunting season than during late special Canada Goose seasons, even without the Sunday hunt, and 2) the available number of hunting days for hunters who work or attend school from Monday to Friday will effectively be doubled.

In deciding where to permit Sunday hunting for migratory birds, the following points were considered:

(1) Sunday hunting for migratory birds will be allowed (or not) for entire provincial Wildlife Management Units (WMU) only. No smaller divisions, such as individual municipalities, will be considered.
(2) In order to maintain the greatest possible hunting pressure on TBP Canada Geese, and considering the previous point (1), Sunday hunting for migratory birds will be allowed in WMUs where municipalities representing the majority of the land area gave their consent to

the change in provincial regulations. In these areas, special late Canada Goose seasons are being discontinued and the length of the regular hunting season adjusted so as not to exceed the maximum number of days allowed under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*. In other WMUs, the federal prohibition on Sunday hunting remains in place and special late Canada Goose seasons are being maintained.

In 2006–2007, the federal prohibition on Sunday hunting for migratory birds was lifted in provincial Wildlife Management Units 60 to 72 inclusively. For 2007–2008, WMUs 83 and 95 are being added to the list of WMUs where Sunday hunting for migratory birds is no longer prohibited under federal regulations.

Manitoba

Eastern Prairie Population (EPP) Canada Geese

The daily bag limit for Canada Geese in provincial Game Hunting Area (GHA) 25B is increased to five birds daily for non-Canadian residents with 15 in possession. Previously, these hunters were restricted to four per day with 12 in possession. An early nesting season in 2006 led to an increase in productivity of eastern prairie population geese, resulting in an overall increase in the population. Overhunting in this GHA is not a concern at the present time.

Snow Geese

The earlier requirement to use only white-phase Snow Goose decoys when using electronic calls in fall was changed to permit the use of white- *and blue-phase* goose decoys. This change is in recognition of the large proportion of blue-phase Snow Geese in the mid-continent population.

Saskatchewan

No changes are being made to the migratory game bird hunting regulations for the 2007–2008 season.

Alberta

No changes are being made to the migratory game bird hunting regulations for the 2007–2008 season.

British Columbia

Ducks, Coot, and Snipe Season, Snow and Ross's Geese Season, and Greater White-fronted Goose Season

In hunting districts 1 and 2, minor date adjustments are being made to provide for traditional weekend openings and to accommodate Waterfowler Heritage Days.

Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Goose

Historically, the Wrangel Island population of Lesser Snow Goose experienced a complete reproductive failure approximately every three years. This has changed, however, and there has been an unprecedented run of good breeding years on Wrangel Island (i.e. eighth consecutive good year in 2006). The mid-winter estimate for the Fraser-Skagit population has doubled compared to the early 1990s. This population growth has resulted in an equally large reduction in the density and biomass of their preferred food—bulrush—on the Fraser River delta, especially after the population increased to more than 50 000 birds (Boyd, EC-S&T, pers. comm.). The pattern observed here is similar to that of the mid-continent Lesser Snow Goose population and eastern Greater Snow Goose population: increased reproductive rates, increased population size, negative effects on natural plant communities, and increased pressure on agricultural lands. To help manage the Fraser-Skagit population (i.e. maintain numbers so population numbers not grow out of control), hunting regulations were changed beginning in 2003–2004 to provide for an additional 25 days during the fall season; the season now totals 107 days. These regulatory changes have not been sufficient to prevent the population from growing exponentially. The harvest rate on the Fraser-Skagit population in recent years is estimated at roughly 7% but a simple analysis of population demographics suggests that a harvest rate in the range of 12 to 14% will be required to control the growth of this population (Boyd, unpubl. data). Beginning in 2007–2008, bag and possession limits are being increased to ten birds per day with 20 in possession, which is double the current limits.

Pacific Population of Western Race Canada Goose

Over the last few years, a number of strategies, including the introduction of multiple ("split") seasons, have been implemented in the southern part of the province to increase the harvest of resident Canada Geese. Minor date adjustments to the regular and split season dates are being implemented in Hunting District 2 to provide for

traditional weekend openings, and a split season is being created in Hunting District 1.

Waterfowler Heritage Days

In hunting districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8, days will be set aside as Waterfowler Heritage Days.

Nunavut

No regulatory changes are being made for the 2007–2008 season.

Northwest Territories

No regulatory changes are being made for the 2007–2008 season.

Yukon

No regulatory changes are being made for the 2007–2008 season.

Band Encounter Reporting on the Web

Band encounter reports can now be submitted online at www.reportband.gov or by following the link on the Bird Banding Office Web site. Features of the Web reporting page will soon include choice of reporting language (French, English or Spanish); e-mail confirmation that your data were received; immediate feedback on banding data; and the option to receive and print your certificate of appreciation electronically at home. This enhanced encounter reporting page will eventually have short cuts for banders and hunters. We hope that by offering an additional reporting method, we will increase reporting and reporter satisfaction. Band encounters can be reported online at www.reportband.gov, by calling toll free 1-800-327-2263 (1-800-327-BAND), by sending an e-mail message, or by writing to:

Bird Banding Office
National Wildlife Research Centre
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K1A 0H3

Starting in 2007, the new Web address www.reportband.gov will replace the postal address on all bands. The toll-free telephone number will remain the same. During 2007, banders will continue to receive the postal address bands until the supply has been exhausted. We hope that with the new encounter reporting page and the Web address on bands, encounter reporting will increase due to ease of reporting. We also expect reporting to increase from outside North America where the toll-free line does not operate.

Environment Canada and Canada Post to Create Efficiency in Hunting Permit Sales

Environment Canada and Canada Post announced plans to conduct a pilot project that will aim to identify improvements to the sale of Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits. This pilot project will affect 572 of 7,000 post offices that traditionally sell the hunting permits.

The goal of the pilot project is to create efficiencies and reduce waste associated with producing and distributing permits to post offices that have been identified as having consistently low to no permit sales. These post offices will not offer permit sales for the 2007 hunting year. The pilot project will take effect on August 1, 2007, and will test at post offices in southern Ontario, southern Quebec and southern British Columbia.

The results of the pilot project will be evaluated by Environment Canada and Canada Post at the end of the 2007-2008 migratory game bird hunting season. The success of the project will be determined by analyzing actual cost savings to both organizations and the reaction from the public including migratory game bird hunters.

Environment Canada and Canada Post will make every effort to inform customers of the nearest post office to purchase a permit; however, the project is not expected to inconvenience customers as there are post offices selling permits within a 10 km radius of offices which were previously offering these permits. The Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit goes on sale annually on August 1.

For more information, please contact:

Environment Canada
Inquiry Centre
70 Crémazie Street
Gatineau, Quebec
K1A 0H3
Telephone: 1 800 668-6767 [in Canada only] or 819-997-2800
Fax: 819-994-1412
TTY: 819-994-0736
E-mail: enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp

Environment Canada seeks public input on the future of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp

and management of the habitat conservation revenues generated through the Stamp program.

The purpose of the consultation is to find the most effective way to generate and administer these revenues. Environment Canada presents five options for consideration in this regard.

Environment Canada is aware that this program may have a direct impact on your interests and would therefore appreciate your feedback and opinions on the options presented in the paper.

A copy of the consultation paper, ***Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp: Options for Generating and Managing Conservation Revenues***, is posted on Environment Canada's Web site at the following address:
http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/legislations/laws1_e.cfm.

You can obtain a copy of the consultation paper by writing, faxing or e-mailing to the addresses below. Should you wish to comment on these questions or on the Stamp program, please respond by October 1, 2007, using the means most convenient for you.

Regular mail:
Chief, Conservation Partnerships and Programs Section
Habitat Conservation and Protected Areas Division
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
351 St. Joseph Blvd.
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3
Fax: 819-953-3575
E-mail: habitatconsultation@ec.gc.ca

Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations

Hunting from a vehicle for hunters with physical disabilities

The Field and Stream Association for Manitobans with Disabilities has contacted the Canadian Wildlife Service requesting that an amendment to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* be considered to allow the use of a vehicle while hunting migratory birds. The Association reported that the provincial hunting regulations in Manitoba had been modified to allow a permanently disabled hunter to discharge a firearm from a stationary vehicle while hunting for big game.

Enquiring about other provincial approaches, Canadian Wildlife Service found that the question of hunting by persons with disabilities is a complex one that is being handled differently in different provincial jurisdictions. In some instances the discharge of a firearm from a vehicle is considered to be strictly a safety issue and it has therefore been prohibited for all persons. In many cases, however, provincial authorities provide for exceptions, either through administrative procedures or through regulations. In those instances, the province has usually developed an approach to identify who is eligible.

It is suggested that a change be made to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* to accommodate persons who are mobility-impaired to hunt migratory birds from a stationary vehicle. Canadian Wildlife Service is therefore developing a proposal to allow persons with disabilities to hunt from a stationary vehicle when such an activity is permitted in the province of hunt and provided that provincial requirements are met. The provision of an exception would not include a relaxation of any other provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, particularly section 16, which requires all hunters to retrieve the game birds shot. A proposed amendment could be pre-published in the *Canada Gazette* as early as fall 2007.

New prohibition regarding wastage of migratory birds

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* have several provisions to ensure the sustainable use of migratory game bird populations. Some provisions deal directly with the setting of bag and possession limits and season opening dates, while other provisions address hunting methods and equipment, the obligation of retrieving birds, and more. All these tools contribute to the maintenance and sustainable use of migratory bird populations. The regulations do not, however, have a provision that explicitly prohibits the wastage of migratory game birds.

The absence of a provision prohibiting wastage has been noted by several interest groups, including aboriginal hunters. It is clear that such a prohibition falls within the spirit of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, where the values associated with migratory birds are emphasized in its preamble: "Committed to the long-term conservation of shared species of migratory birds for their nutritional, social, cultural, spiritual, ecological, economic, and aesthetic values [etc.]".

Several provincial regulations addressing the conservation of wildlife have specific provisions that prohibit wastage. These regulations do not always cover migratory birds, however; thus, Canadian Wildlife Service is considering the development of an explicit regulatory proposal that would prohibit wastage of migratory birds.

Addition of a new nontoxic shot

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, has amended the *Migratory Birds Regulations* and the *Wildlife Area Regulations* to (i) update the definition of nontoxic shot to include tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot as an approved nontoxic alternative, (ii) make minor adjustments to the existing definitions of tungsten-nickel-iron and tungsten-bronze-iron shots, and (iii) ensure the definition is consistent in all the Department of the Environment's wildlife regulations. The proposal was published in *Canada Gazette I* on December 9, 2006, for a formal 30-day period of public comment. No comments were received. The final regulations were approved by the Governor-in-Council on June 14, 2007, and are now law.

All available evidence indicates that the new shot type is not toxic to migratory game birds or their environments. In addition, the revised definitions of tungsten-nickel-iron and tungsten-bronze-iron will continue to ensure nontoxicity while permitting the broadest range possible of alternative formulations. These amendments allow additional options for manufacturers and hunters.

In the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, the definition of "nontoxic shot" includes: bismuth shot, steel shot, tin shot, tungsten-bronze-iron shot, tungsten-iron shot, tungsten-matrix shot, tungsten-nickel-iron shot and tungsten-polymer shot. To this list was added tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot, consisting of, by weight:

a) 40–76% tungsten,
b) 10–37% iron,
c) 9–16% copper,
d) 5–7% nickel and
e) not more than 1% lead or zinc.

In addition, the definition of "tungsten-nickel-iron" was amended as follows:

(a) up to 90% tungsten (formerly "at least 50% tungsten"),
(b) up to 90% iron (formerly "at least 15%")
(c) not more than 40% nickel, (formerly "35%") and
d) not more than 1% of any other element;

Finally, the definition of "tungsten-bronze-iron" was amended as follows:

(a) up to 90% tungsten (formerly "at least 50% tungsten")
(b) up to 90% iron (formerly "at least 0.5% iron")
(c) up to 90% tin (formerly "at least 3%")
(d) not more than 45% copper
(e) not more than 1% of any other element.

Amendment to allow for the temporary possession of migratory birds for disease testing

According to section 6(b) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, no person shall "have in his possession a live migratory bird, or a carcass, skin, nest or egg of a migratory bird except under authority of a permit therefor". In order to facilitate provincial, territorial, municipal and federal government employees, as well as the public, to assist in surveillance for avian influenza in wild birds found dead, the temporary possession of migratory birds is currently allowed under a ministerial order (issued under section 36 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*). As it is envisioned that surveillance of diseases in migratory birds will continue as an ongoing measure, Environment Canada is considering amending the *Migratory Birds Regulations* to exempt individuals from the possession prohibition, in defined cases of temporary possession for disease testing.

For more information on avian influenza surveillance, please visit the following Web site: http://wildlife1.usask.ca/en/aiv/index.php.

Literature Cited

Armstrong, W.T. 1998. Predation and anti-predator tactics of nesting Black Brant and Lesser Snow Geese. Ph.D. thesis. University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

Batt, B.D.J. (ed.). 1998. *The Greater Snow Goose – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group.* Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington D.C. and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ont.

Batt, B.D.J. (ed.). 1997. *Arctic Ecosystems in Peril – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group.* Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ont.

Bélanger, L. and J. Lefebvre. 2006. *Plan for Sustainable Integrated Management of the Greater Snow Goose in Québec: 2005-2010.* Canadian Wildlife Service, Québec Region, Environment Canada, Sainte-Foy. 34 pp.

Brook, R.W., K.F. Abraham and L.R. Walton. 2007. *Monitoring Reproductive Success of Southern James Bay Population Canada Geese, 2007.*

Unpublished report of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Brook, R.W. and J. Hughes. 2007a. *2007 Spring Population Estimates for SJBP Canada Geese*. Unpublished report of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Canadian Wildlife Service (Ontario Region).

Brook, R.W. and J. Hughes. 2007b. *Preliminary Spring Survey Results for MVP Canada Geese, 2007*. Unpublished report of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Canadian Wildlife Service (Ontario Region).

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee. 2006. *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada: November 2006*. Canadian Wildlife Service Migratory Birds Regulations Report Number 20.

Caswell, F.D. and M.H. Schuster. 2007. 2007 *Prairie Waterfowl Status Report: a briefing document*. Unpublished report of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Prairie and Northern Region.

Cooke, F., C.M. Francis, E.G. Cooch, and R. Alisauskas. 2000. Impact of hunting on population growth of mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese. Pages 17–31 in H. Boyd, ed., *Population Modeling and Management of Snow Geese*. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper 102. 36 pp.

Hines, J.E. and M.O. Wiebe, eds. 2006. *Surveys of Geese and Swans in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, Western Canadian Arctic, 1989–2001*. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper 112. Ottawa.

Kerbes, R.H., V.V. Baranyuk and J.E. Hines. 1999. Estimated size of the western Canadian Arctic and Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Goose populations on their breeding and wintering grounds. Pages 25-38 in R.H. Kerbes, K.M. Meeres, and J.E. Hines (eds.), *Distribution, survival, and numbers of Lesser Snow Geese of the western Canadian Arctic and Wrangel Island, Russia*. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper No. 98.

Raedeke, A.H., J. Wollenberg, and B. Lubinski. 2007. *2007 EPP Breeding Population Survey*. Unpublished report of the Missouri Department of Conservation, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Rockwell, R.F., E. Cooch, and S. Brault. 1997. Part III - Dynamics of the mid-continent population of lesser snow geese: Projected impacts of reductions in survival and fertility on population growth rates. Pages 73–100 in B.D.J. Batt, ed., *Arctic Ecosystems in Peril: Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group*. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

Rockwell, R.F. and C.D. Ankney. 2000. Snow Geese: Can We Pay down the Mortgage? Pages 32–34 in H. Boyd, ed., *Population Modeling and Management of Snow Geese*. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper 102. 36 pp.

Appendix A

2007 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory

are also available on the CWS national Web site at:

http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/publications/reg/index_e.cfm

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Newfoundland and Labrador

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

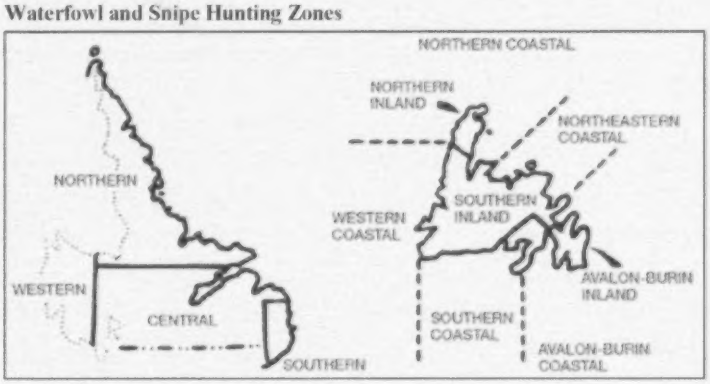
Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
P.O. Box 1201
Lewisporte, Newfoundland and Labrador A0G 3A0
Tel.: 709-535-0601
Fax: 709-535-2743
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions. The season lengths implemented in 1998 for eiders, Long-tailed Ducks (Oldsquaw or hounds), scoters, and mergansers remain in effect.

Waterfowl and Snipe Hunting Zones



"Coastal" refers to that portion of the coast lying within 100 metres of the mean ordinary high-water mark, including the coastal portions of offshore islands and the adjacent marine coastal waters.

Migratory bird hunters: It is illegal to hunt migratory birds, including sea ducks, from a power boat unless the motor is not in operation and all forward progress of the boat has ceased. This regulation does not apply to persons hunting murres (turrs).

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, murres (turrs), and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye will be instituted in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Murre (turr) hunters: All hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and a Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murres (turrs). This hunt is only open to **residents** of Newfoundland and Labrador. Murres can be legally hunted from a power boat. Any occupant of a boat who shoots or retrieves murres, or anyone who operates a boat to pursue murres, is hunting as defined in the Migratory Birds Regulations and is **required** to hold a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit. The non-toxic shot regulation described above does not apply to murres.

Sunday hunting: The Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations allow hunting for migratory birds (ducks, geese, snipe, and murres) on Sundays; however, Sunday hunting has been prohibited by the province. In 2006, the province brought in new regulations that allow Sunday hunting during specific periods of the year. In 2007, the province will permit murre hunting on Sundays throughout the murre season, and permit hunting of ducks, geese, and snipe on Sundays after October 31. Please contact the province for further information on Sunday hunting.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS
Hunting violations may be reported to the Canadian Wildlife Service office, your local RCMP detachment, or Crime Stoppers (1-800-363-8477).

OPEN SEASONS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND (No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks, including mergansers (other than Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters), geese, and snipe	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters
All coastal zones	September 15 to December 29	November 24 to February 29
All inland zones	September 15 to December 29	No open season

* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6	6	5	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12	12	10	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

OPEN SEASONS IN LABRADOR (No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks** and eiders), geese, and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	September 29 to January 12
Western Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	September 8 to December 15	November 24 to February 29
Central Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	October 27 to November 24 and January 5 to February 29

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers, scoters, and eiders	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6	5	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12	10	20

(*a*) Not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Area	Murres
Zone No. 1	September 1 to December 16
Zone No. 2	October 7 to January 20
Zone No. 3	November 25 to March 10
Zone No. 4	November 3 to January 10 and February 2 to March 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Limits	Murres
Daily bags	20
Possession	40

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Prince Edward Island

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 506-364-5032
Fax: 506-364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye will be instituted in Prince Edward Island in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with Prince Edward Island Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-566-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), snipe, and geese	Woodcock
Throughout the Province of Prince Edward Island	September 15	October 1 to December 8	September 24 to December 8

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	5	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	10	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:

CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Nova Scotia

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5th Floor, Queen's Square
45 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 2N6
Tel.: 902-426-1188
Fax: 902-426-6434
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is prohibited. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye will be instituted in Nova Scotia in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS
Hunting violations may be reported to the CWS office, your local RCMP detachment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-565-2224, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-422-8477.

OPEN SEASONS IN NOVA SCOTIA **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Additional seasons for Common and Red-breasted mergansers	Additional seasons for Long-tailed Ducks**, eiders, and scoters in coastal waters only	Additional seasons for scaup, goldeneyes, and Bufflehead	Geese	Woodstock and snipe
Zone No. 1*	Sept. 22	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	No additional season	No additional season	No additional season	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2*	Sept. 22	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Oct. 1 to Oct. 6 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 7 (in coastal waters only)	Oct. 1 to Oct. 6 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 15	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 3*	Sept. 22	Oct. 8 to Dec. 31	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	No additional season	Jan. 1 to Jan. 7	Oct. 8 to Jan. 15	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30

* "Zone No. 1" means the counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester, Cumberland, Hants, Kings, and Annapolis.
"Zone No. 2" means the counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax, Guysborough, Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness, and Richmond, except the area described under Zone 3.
"Zone No. 3" means Bras d'Or Lake and all waters draining into Bras d'Or Lake including waters on the lake side of the highway bridges on Great Bras d'Or at Seal Islands (Highway No. 105), at St. Peters on St. Peters Inlet (Highway No. 4), and at Bras d'Or on St. Andrews Channel (Highway No. 105).
** Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	5	5	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	10	10	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

New Brunswick

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 506-364-5032
Fax: 506-364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as the 1:00 P.M. closure for Tabusintac and Tracadie lagoons, the requirement to use a dog while hunting woodcock during September, etc.

Hunting Zones

Zone No. 1
Saint John County south of No. 1 Highway and west of Saint John Harbour, that part of Charlotte County lying south of No. 1 Highway, and the Grand Manan Islands and Campobello Island, except the following area, which is closed to hunting: the area in the Bay of Fundy known as The Wolves, including the surrounding waters.

Zone No. 2
The remainder of the Province of New Brunswick, except the following, which are closed to hunting: the estuary of the Tabusintac River, Bathurst Basin and most of Bathurst Harbour (two islands remain open and signs have been posted to indicate their locations), and the Dalhousie shoreline from the eastern tip of Dalhousie Island to the mouth of the Miller Brook and extending one kilometre offshore.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye will be instituted in New Brunswick in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with New Brunswick Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEW BRUNSWICK (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese), and snipe	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Additional season for Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders and scoters in coastal waters only	Woodcock
Zone No. 1	Sept. 15	Oct. 15 to Jan. 4	Sept. 4 to Sept. 14(*a*) and Oct. 15 to Jan. 4	Feb. 1 to Feb. 23	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2	Sept. 15	Oct. 1 to Dec. 17	Sept. 4 to Sept. 14(*a*) and Oct. 1 to Dec. 17	No additional season	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30

(*a*) In Zone No. 1 and Zone No. 2, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese is allowed only on farmland from September 4 to September 14.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)	6(*c*)	5(*e*)	8	10
Possession	12(*b*)	12(*d*)	10(*e*)	16	20

(*a*) Not more than three may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*b*) Not more than six may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
(*c*) Not more than four may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, not more than four eiders may be taken daily.
(*d*) Not more than eight may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, not more than eight eiders may be possessed.
(*e*) A total of three additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily and a total of six additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be possessed from September 4 to September 14 inclusive.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Quebec

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.*

*In Quebec, these signs also identify no-hunting zones.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the retrieval of birds, description of hunting districts and non-hunting areas, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service
1141, route de l'Église
P.O. Box 10100
Sainte-Foy, Quebec G1V 4H5
Tel.: 1-800-463-4311
Fax: 418-649-6475
www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html

A provincial hunting permit for small game is required to hunt migratory birds in Quebec. While hunting, it is obligatory for hunters to carry their permits with them. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2007 federal permits.

Non-residents of Canada hunting woodcock have a lower daily bag limit than Canadian hunters.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

NOTE
Waterfowler Heritage Day is September 8 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 15 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 22 for District J. The opening hunting date for ducks is September 15 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 22 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 29 for District J. The non-hunting area of Baie-du-Febvre has been abolished.

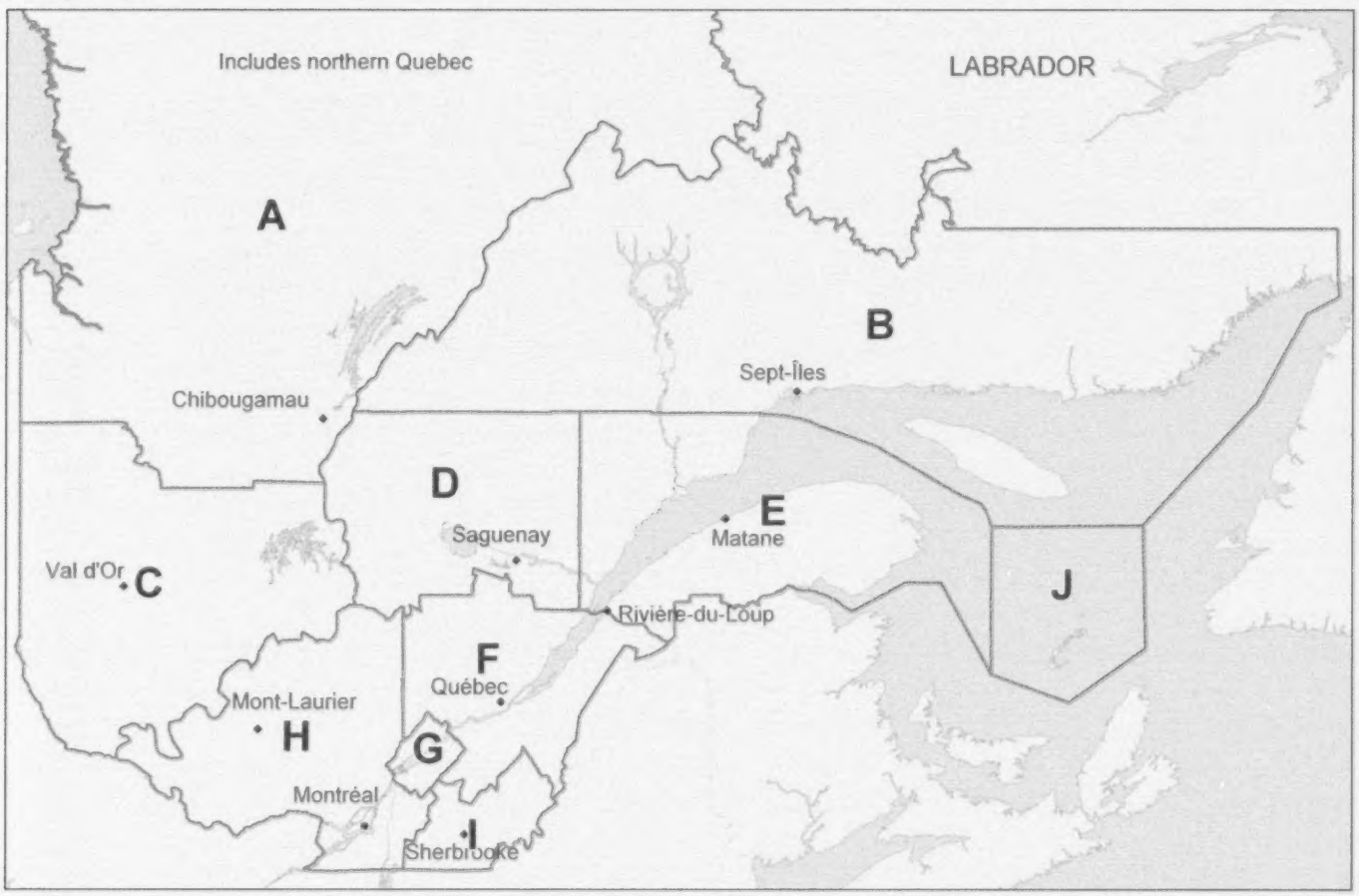
HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN QUEBEC **(No open season for Harlequin Ducks or rails)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock, and snipe WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and Long-tailed Ducks*), geese (other than Canada, Cackling, and Snow geese), and snipe	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks*	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock
A	N/A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	No open season	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10
B	Sept. 8	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26	Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(*b*)	No open season	Sept. 8 to Dec. 22
C, D, and E	Sept. 8	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26(*c*)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 14(*a*) Sept. 15 to Dec. 16	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26	No open season	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26
F, G, H, and I	Sept. 15(*d*)	Sept. 22 to Dec. 26(*c*)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 21(*a*) Sept. 22 to Dec. 21	Sept. 22 to Dec. 26	Sept. 22 to Dec. 26	Sept. 15 to Dec. 26
J	Sept. 22	Sept. 29 to Dec. 26	Sept. 29 to Dec. 26	Nov. 1 to Feb. 14	No open season	Sept. 29 to Dec. 26

(*a*) In districts C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese is allowed only on farmland.
(*b*) In District B along the North Shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24 inclusive and from November 15 to February 5 inclusive.
(*c*) In District E, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 in Provincial Hunting Zone No. 21 and 100 metres beyond this zone. In District F, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 between Pointe Jureux (Saint-Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (Saint-Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone No. 21.
(*d*) In districts F, G, H, and I, hunting for coots and gallinules is allowed during Waterfowler Heritage Day.
* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

Hunting Districts



BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN QUEBEC

Limits	Ducks	Geese (other than Snow Geese)	Snow Geese	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)(*f*)	5(*f*)	20(*f*)	4(*f*)	8(*e*)(*f*)	10(*f*)
Possession	12(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)	10	60	8	16	20

(*a*) Not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in districts A, B, C, D, E, F, and J.
(*b*) Not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in districts G, H, and I. Between November 1 and December 26, not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in districts G, H, and I (only lying east of Gatineau River).
(*c*) Not more than two Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in districts A, B, C, D, E, and J.
(*d*) Not more than one Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of two in districts F, G, H, and I.
(*e*) For non-residents of Canada, not more than four woodcock may be taken daily.
(*f*) Not more than three birds in total may be taken on Waterfowler Heritage Days. The additional species restrictions described in paragraphs (*b*), (*c*), and (*d*) continue to apply within this limit.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that the additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted **only** during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2007 federal permits.

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
District B	September 15 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31(*a*), September 1 to September 14(*a*), and September 15 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)
District E	April 1 to May 31(*a*), September 1 to September 14(*a*), and September 15 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area(*e*)
Districts F, G, H, and I	April 1 to May 31(*a*)(*b*)(*c*), September 6 to September 21(*a*), and September 22 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*) and bait or bait crop area(*e*)
District J	September 29 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(*d*)(*f*)

(*a*) Hunting and hunting equipment are allowed only on farmland.
(*b*) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route 132 between Forgues Street at Berthier-sur-Mer and the eastern limit of Cap-Saint-Ignace municipality.
(*c*) In District G, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.
(*d*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
(*e*) Hunting with bait or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director of Environmental Stewardship Branch of Environment Canada has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3 of the Migratory Birds Regulations.
(*f*) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent only white phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or grey).

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Ontario

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
867 Lakeshore Road
P.O. Box 5050
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6
Tel.: 905-336-6410
www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Note that there is now increased availability of Sunday hunting in the Southern District. For the 2007 season, Sunday gun hunting of migratory birds is permitted in provincial Wildlife Management Units 60 to 72 inclusive, 83, and 95. Sunday gun hunting of migratory birds is permitted only in those municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted by provincial regulations. Hunters should consult the provincial regulations for information about Wildlife Management Unit boundaries and a list of municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Note that hunting restrictions have been put in place for the Wolfe Island area to address concerns over the declining use of this area by waterfowl. As a result, hunting will be permitted in the Wolfe Island area only when hunters are on the island, on the shore, in the shoreline marsh, or on a dock within 20 metres of the shore.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

Hunting Districts

1. **Hudson–James Bay District**
   Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1B, and the portions of Wildlife Management Units 1D, 25, and 26 lying east of longitude 83°45' and north of latitude 51°

2. **Northern District**
   Wildlife Management Unit 1C, those parts of 1D, 25, and 26 lying west of longitude 83°45' and south of latitude 51°, and Wildlife Management Units 2 to 24, 27 to 41, and 45

3. **Central District**
   Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59

4. **Southern District**
   Wildlife Management Units 60A and 61 to 95

OPEN SEASONS IN ONTARIO (**No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), Common Moorhens, American Coots, Common Snipe, and geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese)	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese*	Woodcock
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15
2. Northern District	Sept. 10 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15
3. Central District	Sept. 15 to Dec. 20	Sept. 4 to Dec. 20	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20
4. Southern District	Sept. 22 to Dec. 20(*e*)	Sept. 7 to Sept. 17(*a*)(*e*), Sept. 22 to Dec. 26(*b*), Sept. 22 to Jan. 5(*c*)(*e*), Sept. 22 to Oct. 20(*d*)(*e*), Nov. 24 to Jan. 5(*d*)(*e*), Feb. 21 to Feb. 28(*c*)(*e*)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20(*e*)

(*a*) In Wildlife Management Units 60 to 89, 90 (excluding that part of the Township of South Walsingham, south of County Road 42, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95.
(*b*) In Wildlife Management Units 60 to 72, 83 and 95.
(*c*) In Wildlife Management Units 73 to 82 and 84 to 93.
(*d*) In Wildlife Management Unit 94.
(*e*) No person shall hunt migratory birds on the following Sundays during the hunting season in Wildlife Management Units 73 to 82 and 84 to 94 from September 9 to December 30, and February 24. Sunday exclusions do not apply to falconers, who may hunt only ducks on Sundays from September 23 to December 16 inclusive.
* See below for a simplified presentation of Canada and Cackling Goose Regulations for Southern District.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese*	White-fronted Geese and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), American Coots, Common Snipe, and Common Moorhens	Woodcock
Daily bags	6(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)	5(*e*)(*f*)(*g*)(*h*)	5	10	10	8
Possession	12(*a*)(*b*)(*c*)(*d*)	24	10	40	20	16

(*a*) Not more than one American Black Duck may be taken daily and not more than two American Black Ducks may be possessed in Central and Southern districts and not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily and not more than four American Black Ducks may be possessed in Hudson–James Bay and Northern districts.
(*b*) Not more than four Canvasbacks may be taken daily and not more than eight Canvasbacks may be possessed.
(*c*) Not more than four Redheads may be taken daily and not more than eight Redheads may be possessed.
(*d*) Not more than one Barrow's Goldeneye may be taken daily and not more than two Barrow's Goldeneye may be possessed.
(*e*) A total of not more than three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in that portion of Wildlife Management Unit 1D in Hudson–James Bay District, and in Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 and 37 to 41 from September 10 to December 15.
(*f*) A total of not more than two Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from September 22 to October 20 and from November 24 to January 5.
(*g*) A total of not more than three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 and 93 from September 22 to October 31.
(*h*) A total of three additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9; in Central District from September 4 to September 14; in Wildlife Management Units 60 to 89, 90 (excluding that part of the Township of South Walsingham, south of County Road 42, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 from September 7 to September 17; and in Wildlife Management Units 73 to 82 and 84 to 93 from February 21 to February 28.
* See below for a simplified presentation of Canada and Cackling Goose Regulations for Southern District.

SUMMARY OF CANADA AND CACKLING GOOSE REGULATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ONTARIO

Daily Limit	8	3	5	5	5	5	2	2	8
Possession Limit	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Start	7 Sept.	22 Sept.	1 Nov.	1 Nov.	22 Sept.	22 Sept.	22 Sept.	24 Nov.	21 Feb.
Close	17 Sept.	31 Oct.	5 Jan.	26 Dec.	26 Dec.	5 Jan.	20 Oct.	5 Jan.	28 Feb.
WMU									
60	X				X				
61	X				X				
62	X				X				
63	X				X				
64	X				X				
65	X				X				
66	X				X				
67	X				X				
68	X				X				
69	X				X				
70	X				X				
71	X				X				
72	X				X				
73	X					X			X
74	X					X			X
75	X					X			X
76	X					X			X
77	X					X			X
78	X					X			X
79	X					X			X
80	X					X			X
81	X					X			X
82	X	X	X						X
83	X	X		X					
84	X	X	X						X
85	X	X	X						X
86	X	X	X						X
87	X					X			X
88	X					X			X
89	X					X			X
90	X					X			X
91	X					X			X
92	X					X			X
93	X	X	X						X
94	X						X	X	
95	X				X				
Season Table Footnotes	(*a*)	(*c*)	(*c*)			(*c*)	(*d*)	(*d*)	(*e*)
Limits Table Footnotes	(*h*)	(*g*)					(*f*)	(*f*)	(*h*)

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada

Manitoba

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
Suite 150
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2
Tel.: 204-983-5263
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Game Bird Hunting Zones

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN MANITOBA

Game Bird Hunting Zone	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks, Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, coots, and snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow and Ross's geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Zone No. 1	N/A	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(*b*)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(*b*)
Zone No. 2	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(*a*)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)
Zone No. 3	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 24 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 17 to Nov. 30(*b*)
Zone No. 4	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(*b*)	Sept. 24 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 17 to Nov. 30(*b*)

(*a*) In provincial Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 6 and 6A only.
(*b*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese. If those recordings are used with decoys, the decoys must represent white and/or blue phase Snow Geese only. Any migratory bird for which there is an open season may also be taken.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN MANITOBA

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese, and Brant)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	8(*c*)	20	5	5	8	10
Possession	16(*b*)	16(*d*)	80	15	10	16	20

(*a*) In Zone 4 for residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*b*) In Zone 4 for residents, not more than eight may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*c*) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than two may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.
(*d*) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

NOTE
The open season for hunting of geese by non-residents in Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, and the Provincial Game Hunting Areas 13A, 14, 14A, all that portion of Game Hunting Area 16 south of the north limit of township 33, Game Hunting Areas 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 21A, 23A, and 25 as described in Manitoba Regulation 220/86 as filed on September 25, 1986, includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from the opening date (September 24) up to and including October 14, and thereafter geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2007 federal permits.

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls(*a*)(*b*)
Zones 2, 3, and 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls(*a*)(*b*)

(*a*) "Recorded bird calls" refers to the Snow Goose call.
(*b*) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white and/or blue phase Snow Geese only.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Saskatchewan

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

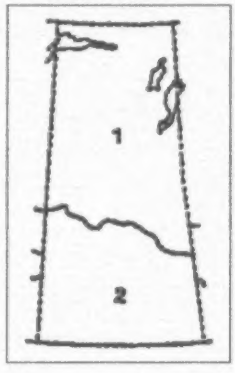
The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
115 Perimeter Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4
Tel.: 306-975-4919
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Districts



District No. 1 (North) Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43 and 47 to 76 inclusive.

District No. 2 (South) Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 1 to 42 inclusive and 44 to 46 inclusive.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2007 federal permits.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

District	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Geese RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Sandhill Cranes
No. 1 (North)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
No. 2 (South)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*a*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*b*)(*d*)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*d*)	Sept. 10 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(*c*)

(*a*) Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16 inclusive.
(*b*) Except White-fronted Geese; the season for residents of Saskatchewan for White-fronted Geese is from September 10 to December 16 inclusive.
(*c*) The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all Sandhill Crane hunting.
(*d*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, any migratory bird for which there is an open season may also be taken.

NOTE
The open season for geese for residents and non-residents of Saskatchewan in District No. 2 (South), and the Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43, 47 to 59 inclusive, and 67 to 69 inclusive, of District No. 1 (North) includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from September 1 to October 14, inclusive, and on and after October 15 geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset, except east of 106 degrees west longitude, where, on and after September 1, white geese (Snow and Ross's geese) may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all hunting until September 20.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark Geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	20	8(*c*)	5	10	10
Possession	16(*b*)	60	16(*d*)	10	20	20

(*a*) Not more than three may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than six may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) For residents of Saskatchewan, not more than four may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Saskatchewan, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.
(*d*) For residents of Saskatchewan, not more than eight may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Saskatchewan, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

Cranes

Where the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service or the Chief Provincial Game Officer of Saskatchewan is of the opinion that Whooping Cranes may be in the Saskatchewan Sandhill Crane Management Area during the open season for Sandhill Cranes in that area, such officer may prohibit the hunting of Sandhill Cranes in that area, and thereafter no person shall hunt or kill Sandhill Cranes in that area in that year.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

Alberta

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
4999-98 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
Tel.: 780-951-8891
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Hunting Zones

Hunters are advised to pay particular attention to the Alberta Hunting Guide to ensure that they are hunting for the correct species in the correct wildlife management unit during the permitted times and dates. Note that these zone numbers do not correspond to regions as presented in the Guide.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure. www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN ALBERTA

Area	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese)	Coots and snipe	Falconry season for ducks, coots, and snipe
Zones 1(*a*), 2, 3, 4, and 8*	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
Zones 5, 6, and 7*	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23

(*a*) Except that Alberta Wildlife Management Unit 841 in Zone 1 has an opening date of September 15.

* "**Zone No. 1**" means that part of Alberta included in Provincial Wildlife Management Units (PWMUs) 501 to 506, 509 to 512, 514 to 519, 529, 530 to 532, and 841
"**Zone No. 2**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 344, 347, 349, 350 to 360, 520 to 528, 534 to 537, 539, 540, 542, and 544.
"**Zone No. 3**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 200, 202 to 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, and 500.
"**Zone No. 4**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 206, 208, 216, 220 to 222, 224, 226, 228, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336 to 340, 342, 346, 348, 429, 507, 508, and 936.
"**Zone No. 5**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 151, 160, 162 to 164, and 166.
"**Zone No. 6**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 152, 156, 158, 210, 212, 214, 300, 302 to 306, 308, 310, 312, and 314.
"**Zone No. 7**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, and 150.
"**Zone No. 8**" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 316, 318, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416 to 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436 to 442, 444 to 446.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ALBERTA

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling, and White-fronted geese)	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	20	8(*c*)	10	10
Possession	16(*b*)	60	16(*d*)	20	20

(*a*) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) For Canadian residents, not more than five may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.
(*d*) For Canadian residents, not more than 10 may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Canada

Environment Canada | Environnement Canada

British Columbia

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Summary

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
Pacific Wildlife Research Centre
R.R. 1, 5421 Robertson Road Delta,
British Columbia V4K 3N2
Tel.: 604-940-4710
www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/en/index.shtml

Hunting Districts

1. Provincial Management Units (PMU) 1-1 to 1-15
2. PMU 2-2 to 2-19
3. PMU 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44
4. PMU 4-1 to 4-9 and 4-14 to 4-40
5. PMU 5-1 to 5-15
6. PMU 6-1 to 6-30
7. PMU 7-2 to 7-58
8. PMU 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

District	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Snow and Ross's geese	Other geese	Brant	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
No. 1	Sept. 29 and 30	Oct. 6 to Jan. 18	Oct. 6 to Jan. 18	Oct. 6 to Jan. 18(*a*) Sept. 8 to 16(*b*)(*c*) Oct. 6 to Nov. 23 Dec. 15 to Jan. 6(*b*)(*c*) Feb. 16 to March 10(*b*)(*c*)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30	No open season
No. 2	Sept. 1 and 2(*e*)(*f*) and Sept. 29 and 30	Oct. 6 to Jan. 18(*c*)(*g*) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*e*)	Oct. 6 to Jan. 1(*h*) Feb. 23 to Mar. 10(*h*)	Oct. 6 to Jan. 18(*i*) Sept. 8 to Sept. 16(*c*)(*j*) Oct. 6 to Nov. 25(*c*)(*j*) Dec. 15 to Jan. 6(*c*)(*j*) Feb. 18 to March 10(*c*)(*j*) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*e*)(*k*)	Mar. 1 to Mar. 10(*c*)(*l*)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(*m*)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 1 and 2	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(*n*) Sept. 10 to Sept. 20(*o*) Oct. 1 to Dec. 23(*o*) March 1 to March 10(*o*)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(*p*)	Sept 1. to Sept. 30
No. 4	Sept. 1 and 2	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	No open season	No open season	Sept 1. to Sept. 30
No. 5	Sept. 8 and 9	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 1 and 2(*q*) Sept. 15 and 16(*r*)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(*q*) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(*q*) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(*q*) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(*r*)	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 7	N/A	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 1 and 2	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25(*s*) Sept. 20 to Nov. 28(*k*) Dec. 20 to Jan. 5(*k*) Feb. 21 to March 10(*k*)	No open season	No open season	Sept 1. to Sept. 30

(*a*) Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-8 to 1-15 inclusive, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*b*) Provincial Management Units 1-1, 1-2, and 1-4 to 1-7 inclusive, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*c*) See provincial regulations for local restrictions.
(*d*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive, and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for Ducks, Canada Geese, and Cackling Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese.
(*e*) Provincial Management Unit 2-11 only.
(*f*) For Ducks, Canada Geese, and Cackling Geese only.
(*g*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive, and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive.
(*h*) Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only.
(*i*) Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive, 2-9, 2-10, and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive only, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*j*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, and for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*k*) For Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*l*) Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.
(*m*) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-19 inclusive.
(*n*) Provincial Management Units 3-12 to 3-18 inclusive, 3-30 to 3-35 inclusive, and 3-38 to 3-44 inclusive, for White-fronted, Canada, and Cackling geese, and Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29 inclusive, 3-36, and 3-37 for White-fronted Geese only.
(*o*) Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29 inclusive, 3-36, and 3-37, for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
(*p*) Provincial Management Units 3-13 to 3-17 inclusive.
(*q*) Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive only.
(*r*) Provincial Management Units 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive only.
(*s*) For White-fronted Geese only.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Coots	Snipe	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
Daily bags	8(*a*)(*c*)(*e*)(*k*)	5(*g*)(*i*), 10(*m*)	10	10	5	5
Possession	16(*b*)(*d*)(*f*)(*l*)	10(*h*)(*j*), 20(*m*)	20	20	10	10

(*a*) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
(*b*) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
(*c*) Not more than four may be Canvasbacks.
(*d*) Not more than eight may be Canvasbacks.
(*e*) Not more than two may be goldeneyes.
(*f*) Not more than four may be goldeneyes.
(*g*) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(*h*) Not more than four may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
(*i*) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of five Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, can be taken daily.
(*j*) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of 10 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, can be in possession daily.
(*k*) Not more than two may be Harlequin Ducks.
(*l*) Not more than four may be Harlequin Ducks.
(*m*) For Snow Geese only and in Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Nunavut

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1E2
Tel.: 867-669-4730
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

NOTE
Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2007 federal permits.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN NUNAVUT

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout Nunavut	September 1 to December 10(*a*)

(*a*) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, any migratory bird for which there is an open season may also be taken.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NUNAVUT

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON- RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25(*c*)(*g*)	8(*c*)(*g*)	15(*b*)(*e*)	5(*a*)(*b*)(*e*)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit(*d*)(*h*)	16(*d*)(*h*)	No limit(*b*)(*f*)	10(*a*)(*b*)(*f*)	No limit	No limit	20

(*a*) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.

(*b*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, a total of not more than three Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, may be taken daily, and not more than 10 may be possessed.

(*c*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than two American Black Ducks.

(*d*) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than four American Black Ducks.

(*e*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit is 20 Snow Geese, a total of five Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, and five other geese.

(*f*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit is 60 Snow Geese, a total of 10 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of these, and 10 other geese.

(*g*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than four American Black Ducks and two Blue-winged Teal.

(*h*) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than eight American Black Ducks and four Blue-winged Teal.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than one-half hour after sunset, except north of the 60th parallel, where no person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Northwest Territories

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 1E2
Tel.: 867-669-4730
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

OPEN SEASONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout the Northwest Territories	September 1 to December 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON- RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25	8	15	5(*a*)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit	16	No limit	10(*a*)	No limit	No limit	20

(*a*) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.

NOTE
No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)

Environment Canada Environnement Canada

Yukon Territory

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

Watch for this loon on blue signs marking National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries.

Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
91782 Alaska Highway
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5B7
Tel.: 867-667-4597
www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/theme.cfm?lang=e&category=6

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

HELPFUL TIP
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure.
www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html

Hunting Areas

Northern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying north of latitude 66°
Southern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying south of latitude 66°

OPEN SEASONS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Area	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Northern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31
Southern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(*a*)	5(*b*)	2	0(*c*)	10
Possession	24(*a*)	15(*b*)	4	0(*c*)	30(*d*)

(*a*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 17 additional ducks may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*b*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 10 additional geese may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*c*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory 25 rails and coots may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
(*d*) Except that in the Northern Yukon Territory there is no possession limit.

NOTE
No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Canada

REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)